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## UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

## REGIONAL OFFICE

2006 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD BUILDING  
234 STATE STREET  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226



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Commanding Officer  
U.S.S. Bristol County (LST-1128)  
FPO San Francisco

Dear Sir:

As part of our continuing review of the Navy's financial management system, we examined selected transactions in your disbursing officer's accounts for the 6 months ended June 30, 1973. Of the 253 military pay records and vouchers we examined, 53 had one or more errors—an error rate of 22 percent. These errors, summarized in the appendix, caused overpayments, underpayments and incorrect leave balances.

Voucher errors were predominant and indicate a need for more proficiency and supervisory attention in preparing and paying travel claims. The most common types of errors were:

- improper deductions for meals--primarily on the day of departure from a temporary duty station,
- incorrect computation of the number of days en route between stations for which per diem was payable, and
- unauthorized payment of per diem for travel under orders directing group travel.

We were unable to pinpoint responsibility or determine specific causes of the errors since our review was limited to records at the Navy Finance Center.

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Cleveland. However, we believe travel voucher errors could be substantially reduced if disbursing personnel become more familiar with the Joint Travel Regulations and are more careful in performing routine tasks. The other errors could be minimized by adequate verification and supervisory reviews.

We are bringing this information to your attention so you can take action to preclude future errors. We would appreciate your comments on the causes and actions taken. To assist you, we are enclosing Information copies of informal inquiries. Please let us know if you need additional information.

Sincerely yours,

C. H. MOORE

C. H. Moore  
Regional Manager

Enclosures-2

Appendix

Copies of Informal Inquiries (10)

cc: Comptroller of the Navy (ACD-3)  
Comptroller of the Navy (ACOF-3)  
Commanding Officer, Navy Finance Center, Cleveland  
Commanding Officer, NAVF Regional Finance Center,  
San Diego  
Director, Naval Area Audit Service, San Diego

U. S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE  
DETROIT REGIONAL OFFICE

U.S.S. BRISTOL COUNTY (LST-1198)  
JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1973

EXTENT OF ERRORS

TYPE OF RECORD	TOTAL	REVIEWED	ERRORS	RECORDS WITH ERRORS	
				Number	Percent
Military travel					
Vouchers	173	86	58	41	48
Miscellaneous vouchers	7	7	2	4	57
Military pay records	281	140	12	7	5
Totals	460	233	72	52	32

SUMMARY OF ERRORS

TYPE OF ERROR	NUMBER	OVERPAYMENT	UNDERPAYMENT
<b>MILITARY TRAVEL VOUCHERS</b>			
<i>Per Diem</i>			
Meals/quarters - deductions	18	\$ 61.15	\$ 7.50
Computation	12	3.50	41.05
Group travel	9	240.35	
Constructive travel	6	42.65	
Not paid while en route between stations	4		\$3.20
Wrong rate	2	210.20	
<i>Other</i>			
Dependant travel - wrong point of origin	1	27.12	
Monetary allowance in lieu of transportation - not entitled	1	11.00	
Not entitled to taxi fares - paid monetary allowance in lieu of transportation	3	18.40	
Not reimbursed for cost of Government quarters	1		6.00
Mileage between lodgings and temporary duty station - exceeded authorized distance	1	10.50	
Subtotal	58	\$655.83	\$87.55